

Message Text

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47

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SP-02

DHA-02 INR-07 PM-04 NEA-10 NSC-05 CIAE-00 CCO-00 OC-05

SSO-00 SYE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /076 W

----- 024763

O P 241415Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3637

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 1024

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ASEC ET

SUBJ: SECURITY OF AMERICANS: RELOCATION AND CONSOLIDATION

REF: ASMARA 1022

1. OIC NAVCOMMUNIT AND DOD-CONTRACT MANAGERS TALKED WITH EPMG HOUSING AUTHORITY AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 24, CONCERNING RENTS OF HOUSES AT TWO SITES (BAROTOLO ESTATES AND BLOCK ADJACENT TO TRACT ECHO). HOUSING OFFICIALS CLAIMED THAT BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON RENTS (WHICH DATE FROM 1972), THOSE ADJACENT TO TRACT ECHO WOULD RENT FOR ET#130 TO 160. THESE RENTS ARE APPROXIMATELY TWICE WHAT DOD-CONTRACT CIVILIANS ARE PAYING FOR PRESENT RESIDENCES. FOR BAROTOLO ESTATES, RENTS ARE AS THEY WERE BEFORE COLLAPSE OF HOUSING MARKET, I.E. ET\$450 TO 500 PER MONTH, SITUATION WHICH HOUSING AUTHORITY CLAIMS HAVE NOT BEEN AFFECTED BY
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URBAN LAND REFORM PROCLAMATION.

2. OIC AND DOD-CONTRACT MANAGERS CONSIDER THESE RENTS TOTALLY OUT OF LINE WITH CURRENT HOUSING MARKET IN ASMARA, AND THEREFORE REFUSED TO ACCEPT TERMS. AS THOSE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES WHO WOULD BE REQUIRED TO RELOCATE ARE STILL SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL ABOUT NECESSITY FOR MOVE, THEREFORE TO ASK THEM TO PAY TWICE THEIR CURRENT RENT FOR LESS IN TERMS OF AMENITIES, CAN ONLY CREATE MORE DISSATISFACTION, AND INCREASE POSSIBILITY OF RESIGNATION.

3. APO HAS REQUESTED INTERVIEW FOR APO AND OIC WITH BG GETACHEW, MARTIAL ADMINISTRATOR OF ERITREA, TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF RENTS. GETACHEW'S INITIAL REACTION ON TELEPHONE WAS THAT AMERICANS WERE PAYING TOO LITTLE AT PRESENT, THUS INCREASE IS JUSTIFIABLE. WE INTEND TO HOLD LINE ON ISSUE AND EXPECT THAT EPMG DESIRE TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT OF FURTHER KIDNAPPING WILL OVERCOME THEIR DESIRE FOR INCREASED RENTS.
WAUCHOPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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